GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:560
ANSWERED ON:23.05.2006
TOBACCO GROWERS
Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Tobacco Board has given some suggestions for welfare of tobacco growers;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the Tobacco Board has also requested the Government that tobacco growers must be treated equally with other farmers;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government proposes to modernize tobacco farming in the country; and

(f) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH)

a): No, Sir.

b): Does not arise.

c): No, Sir.

d): Does not arise.

e) & f): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (e) & (f) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 560 FOR ANSWER ON 23.05.2006 REGARDING `TOBACCO GROWERS`.

e)& f): The Tobacco Board provides assistance t o tobacco farmers through various Extension & Developmental schemes for improving the quality and production of tobacco in tune with the changing international demand and quality. The Board extends subsidy from 25% to 50% to the growers under various schemes such as Farm Mechanization, Integrated Pest Management, Energy conversation measures like fixing venturi furnaces to Barns and Roof Insulation to the Barns etc. The Board also helps farmers in construction of mini check dams / farm ponds for irrigation of tobacco crops and arranges input loans & crop loans.